

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0029] as follows:

[0029] In a further embodiment of the present invention, additional cooling of the hub end of brake disc 1 and the vehicle axle is provided by ventilation apertures 19 spaced about the circumference of connecting flange portion 4 which encourage air flow through the region between the hub end of the axle and connecting flange portion 4. ~~[[[FOR THE INVENTOR: ARE OPENINGS ALSO ENVISIONED IN THE FRICTION SURFACE PORTION? (i.e., between the friction faces 9 and the thermal hinge 15?)]]]~~